



M/40/22  
Monaco, 16 August 2022

To: **MEMBER FEDERATIONS**  
Copy: Council Members  
Executive Board Members  
Commission Chairpersons  
Area Associations  
Dentsu Athletics

Re: **Changes to Application Process for Transfers of Allegiance**

Dear all,

As referenced in Circular M/38/22, at the last Council meeting in Eugene, Oregon, USA, Council approved amendments to the Eligibility Rules (see Rule 4) and the Regulations on Eligibility to Represent a Member in National Representative Competitions (now 'Transfer of Allegiance Regulations'). The updated Eligibility Rules and Transfer of Allegiance Regulations can be found in the [Book of Rules](#) see Book C3.3 (Eligibility Rules) and Book C3.4 (Transfer of Allegiance Regulations).

The changes reflect experience over the last four years of the current rules and regulations placing a greater overriding emphasis on athlete welfare matters (i.e., rights, privileges and benefits offered, and that they are protected at all stages of the transfer including post transfer) and ensure what has been promised to athletes is being delivered / upheld by Member Federations and/or their clubs.

This circular highlights the key changes to the application process and form (see Appendix). The form in Appendix must be used for all future applications to the Nationality Review Panel.

Rule/Regulation	What's been updated/changed?
Eligibility Rules 4.2 and 4.4	The Nationality Review Panel (NRP) can add further conditions to its approval or refuse to give its approval against applications under Rules 4.2.4 (i.e., where an athlete has never represented a Member Federation before) and 4.4.2 (i.e. where an athlete has represented a Member Federation before). This is where the NRP is of the view that the Council imperatives set out at Regulation 1.2 of the Transfer of Allegiance Regulations are impinged or compromised.
Eligibility Rule 4.3	In eligibility cases (i.e., where an athlete has never represented a Member Federation before) an <b>athlete may be requested at any time to provide evidence</b> confirming their entitlement to represent a Member Federation.
Eligibility Rule 7.2	A new sanction has been added: a Member Federation is suspended from applying to the NRP for a period, where they have been withholding rights and privileges from athletes or are otherwise in breach of the Rules or Regulations.
Transfer of Allegiance Regulations - New Regulation 2.9	An application fee of US\$100.00 per application is introduced. Payment details will be provided by the NRP Secretariat once an application is complete and ready to be submitted to the NRP.
Transfer of Allegiance Regulations - New Regulation 2.10	a. Applications <b>must</b> be supported by valid, authentic, accurate and complete documents which the applicant Member Federation must confirm in their application form.



Rule/Regulation	What's been updated/changed?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. The applicant Member Federation <b>must</b> inform the Member Federation of the Country or Territory where the athlete is coming from. Evidence of the prior notification must be submitted with the application form.</li> <li>c. The applicant Member Federation <b>must</b> disclose payments, rights, privileges and benefits offered to the athletes and the rights associated with an athletes' citizenship status; and disclosure of any third parties (i.e. Athletes Representatives, Family Member or other persons) involved in the transfer and any payments they receive.</li> <li>d. Applications must be submitted with the specific knowledge or confirmation from the President and General Secretary/Chief Executive Officer of the applicant Member Federation.</li> </ul>
Transfer of Allegiance Regulations - New Regulation 2.11	The Athletics Integrity Unit will carry out a documentation check of applications prior to the application being submitted to the NRP.
Transfer of Allegiance Regulations - New Regulations 2.21, 2.22 and 2.23	If a Member Federation/Athlete wishes to challenge a decision, they need to submit a request for reconsideration of a decision if new facts or evidence emerge <b>prior to</b> submitting a request to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

To complement the changes in the procedure and form, we will be introducing an online application form and process, more information will follow by the end of November 2022.

Finally, following an open recruitment process, the four individuals highlighted in green font have been appointed by the Council to the Nationality Review Panel for a four-year term which started on 1 August 2022. The full composition of the NRP is set out below.

- Hiroshi Yokokawa (JPN) - Chair
- Geoff Gardner (NFI)
- Brian Roe (AUS)
- Jinaro Kibet (KEN)
- Rozle Prezelj (SLO)
- **Susanne Van Waert (NED)**
- **Cydonie Mothersill (CAY)**
- **Sarah Austin (USA)**
- **Noelia Caicedo Coello (ECU)**

Any applications, questions, and queries concerning transfers of athletes from one Member Federation to another must be sent to [nrp.secretariat@worldathletics.org](mailto:nrp.secretariat@worldathletics.org).

Kind regards,

**Jon Ridgeon**  
Chief Executive Officer

Appendix: Application by a Member Federation Procedure including the Application Form and the template Sworn Statement (under separate cover)